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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Wolfgang **BECKER**, Markus **BECK**, Klaus **GOTH**,
Mike **PAELMER**, Claus-Dieter **REINIGER**
and Daniel **ZAUNER**

Application No.: 10/790,383

Confirmation No.: 1064

Filed: **March 1, 2004**

Group Art Unit: 3742

For: **PROCESS FOR LASER WELDING WITH PRE- AND/OR POST-HEATING
IN THE AREA OF THE WELD SEAM**

Attorney Docket No.: 3926.070

Customer Number: 000041288

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97 and §1.98**

Mail Stop Amendment

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

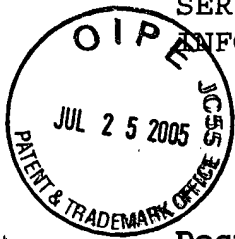
Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicants hereby notify the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the following documents for the above-identified application. Copies of the documents set forth below and listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A, a copy of an Office Action which issued in the corresponding German patent application are provided herewith.

1. Japanese patent application No. 06 304 772 A (abstract)
2. Japanese patent application No. 61 046 385 A (abstract)
3. Japanese patent application No. 02 295 686 A (abstract)
4. European patent application No. 781 622 A2

U.S. PATENT APPLICATION
SERIAL NO.: 10/790,383
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

ATTY DOCK: 3926.070



Documents 1-4

Documents 1-4 are in the English language.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after three months from the application's filing date but before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, therefore no Certification Under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) is required.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedated or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Applicant respectfully requests that the listed documents be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO-1449 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stephan A. Pendorf", written over a horizontal line.

Stephan A. Pendorf
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U.S. PATENT APPLICATION

SERIAL NO.: 10/790,383

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

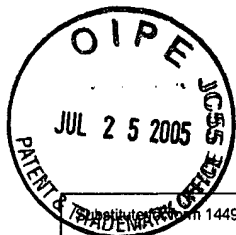


CERTIFICATE OF MAILING AND AUTHORIZATION TO CHARGE

I hereby certify that the foregoing INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT Form PTO/SB/08A, including four (4) documents, for U.S. Application No. 10/790,383 filed March 1, 2004, were deposited in first class U.S. mail, postage prepaid, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on **July 22, 2005**.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required at any time during the prosecution of this application without specific authorization, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 16-0877.


Stephan A. Pendorf

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 1

Complete If Known

Application Number	10/790,383
Filing Date	March 1, 2004
First Named Inventor	Wolfgang BECKER
Art Unit	3742
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket No.	3926.070

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number Number-Kind Code ² (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
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		US-			
		US-			
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		US-			
		US-			

NON-PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.) date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published	T ²

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document Country Code ³ Number ⁵ (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T
		JP 06 304 772 A (abstract)	11-01-1994	SOMA NAOHITO	See transm. letter	Y
		JP 61 046 385 A (abstract)	03-06-1986	NIIMI AKIHIKO	See transm. letter	Y
		JP 02 295 686 A (abstract)	12-06-1990	EGASHIRA ICHIRO	See transm. letter	Y
		EP 781 622 A2	07-02-1997	ESAKA FUMIKATSU	See transm. letter	Y

Examiner Signature

Date Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.